Brown, Katherine

From: Brown, Katherine

Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 1:34 PM

To: Kissinger, Lon

Subject: FW: Draft General Permits for Oil and Gas Exploration in Cook Inlet- 60 day public comment

periods March 22- May 21

From: Brown, Katherine

Sent: Friday, March 22, 2013 2:43 PM

To: 'Jessica Winnestaffer'; 'Lisa Wade'; Marc Lamoreaux; Angeleen Waskey; Brenda Trefon; Theo Garcia; Gerald Pilot; Klaudia Klaudi; Priscilla Evans; Darrel Williams; Gina Wiste; Violet Yeaton; Rita Meganack; Michael Opheim; Tracie Merrill; Jessica Standifer; Tina Constantine

Cc: Godsey, Cindi; Brown, Gerry R (DEC); Twitchell, Miriah D (DEC); Opalski, Dan

Subject: Draft General Permits for Oil and Gas Exploration in Cook Inlet- 60 day public comment periods March 22- May 21

Greetings All!

The EPA and the ADEC have released Draft NPDES and Draft APDES General Permits for Oil and Gas Exploration (in Cook Inlet Federal and State Waters respectively) for concurrent 60 day public comment periods (March 22 thru May 21). These permits will authorize certain discharges of pollutants into Cook Inlet from oil and gas exploration facilities, subject to limits and requirements designed to minimize pollution and protect water quality.

The EPA's draft general permit, fact sheet, and Ocean Discharge Criteria Evaluation (ODCE) have been mailed to Cook Inlet tribes. They are also available on EPA's website at

http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/WATER.NSF/NPDES+Permits/DraftPermitsAK. The ADEC's draft general permit documents will be available today on ADEC's website under the Public Notices section at http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/wwdp/index.htm

In response to requests at meetings in February, the EPA will offer a "Permitting 101" training webinar with a focus on oil and gas for interested representatives of Cook Inlet tribal governments Wednesday April 10. The EPA is also open to hosting additional meetings on the general permits. Please contact me, Katherine Brown at (206) 553-7263 or brown.katherine@epa.gov as soon as possible if you and/or a representative of your tribe are interested in participating.

April 10, 2013 1:00-3:00pm AK

Call-In Number: (866) 299-3188 Conference Code: (206) 553-6524

The EPA and the ADEC will hold joint public hearings on the general permits in Kenai April 29, in Homer April 30, and in Anchorage May 2. A court reporter will record these hearings. The Anchorage hearing will have teleconferencing capability so that anyone unable to attend a hearing in person can still give oral testimony.

April 29, 2013 6:00-9:00pm AK

Kenai Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center

11471 Kenai Spur Hwy Kenai, AK 99611

April 30, 2013 6:00-9:00pm AK

Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Island & Ocean Visitor Center Auditorium 95 Sterling Highway, Suite 1 Homer, AK 99603

May 2, 2013 6:00-9:00pm AK

University of Alaska Gorsuch Commons Building Conference Room 106 3700 Sharon Gagnon Lane Anchorage, AK 98508

Teleconference Line: (866) 299-3188 code (907)271-

1272#

Written comments on the EPA's draft NPDES permit can be directed to Project Lead and Permit Writer Cindi Godsey at godsey.cindi@epa.gov. Written comments on ADEC's draft APDES permit can be directed to Permit Writer Gerry Brown at gerry.brown@alaska.gov. If you have questions relating to these permits or processes, you can contact Cindi at (907) 271-6561 or Gerry at (907) 269-4874. If you would like to request additional consultation with the EPA on this action, you can contact Dan Opalski at opalski.dan@epa.gov or (206) 553-1855.

Sincerely,

Katherine Brown, M.S.
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
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